

# Special Session

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	2
<b>Meeting Date</b>	April 9, 2007
<b>Prepared By</b>	Jessie Carpenter City Clerk for Councilmember Austin-Lane
<b>Approved By</b>	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Resolution Proclaiming Monday, April 16, 2007 as “District of Columbia Full Emancipation Day”
<b>Background</b>	<p>Councilmember Austin-Lane has requested that the resolution be placed on the agenda for Council consideration and adoption.</p> <p>The resolution affirms the right of DC residents to full voting representation in the US Congress, proclaims Monday, April 16, 2007 to be "District of Columbia Full Emancipation Day" in Takoma Park, and calls upon Takoma Park residents to participate in the April 16 Voting Rights March and other DC voting rights activities.</p>
<b>Policy</b>	The Council may adopt resolutions to set forth positions of support or opposition of the City Government on a particular subject.
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	None
<b>Attachments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolution Proclaiming Monday, April 16, 2007 as “District of Columbia Full Emancipation Day”</li> <li>Voting Rights March Flyer</li> <li>List of Activities Related to DC Voting Rights - April 9 - April 16, 2007</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendation</b>	Councilmember Austin-Lane requests Council support for the resolution.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	

Introduced by:

**Resolution 2007-  
District of Columbia Full Emancipation Day**

- Whereas,** Monday, April 16, 2007 marks the 145th anniversary of the day in 1862, on which President Abraham Lincoln signed the "Compensated Emancipation Act, For the release of certain persons held to service or labor in the District of Columbia;" and
- Whereas,** the Compensated Emancipation Act freed all enslaved people in Washington, DC nine months before President Lincoln issued his famous Emancipation Proclamation of 1863; and
- Whereas,** the 581,000 residents of the District of Columbia have lacked full voting representation in the House and Senate of the United States Congress since long before its enslaved residents were freed; and
- Whereas,** no other country in the world denies the citizens of its capital city equal rights to those enjoyed by all other citizens; and
- Whereas,** the United States Congress already treats Washington, DC as though it were a state for over 500 statutory purposes; and the Supreme Court has deemed the District of Columbia the equivalent of a state for certain constitutional purposes; and
- Whereas,** the Emancipation granted on April 16, 1862 is not complete until the residents of Washington, DC are granted the same rights and responsibilities afforded all other citizens of the United States of America, which Congress has the power to do.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland affirms the right of DC residents to full voting representation in the US Congress; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Takoma Park City Council proclaims Monday, April 16, 2007 to be "District of Columbia Full Emancipation Day" in Takoma Park, Maryland, and calls upon our residents to stand in solidarity with the residents of Washington, DC, as we rally to honor their history and fight for their future.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

# DC Emancipation Day 4.16.07



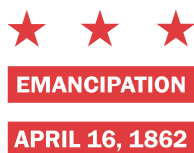
## Voting Rights March

**Take Two Hours. March with Mayor Fenty!**

**Join us to tell the nation:**

We were first freed, but still suffer  
**Taxation without Representation!**

- Who:** Mayor Fenty, Chairman Gray, Delegate Norton, other elected officials, DC Vote, civic leaders, coalition partners and **you!**
- What:** Voting Rights March — The Largest Demonstration Ever for DC Voting Rights
- When:** DC Emancipation Day, April 16, 2007  
**2:30 PM—Gather at Freedom Plaza**, 13<sup>th</sup> St. & Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
**4:00 PM—Rally at the Capitol Reflecting Pool**, 3<sup>rd</sup> St. & Independence Ave., NW
- Where:** Gather at Freedom Plaza and march to the Capitol Reflecting Pool  
Metro Stops: Freedom Plaza—Metro Center • Capitol Reflecting Pool—Federal Center SW
- Why:** Because the nation needs to see thousands of us taking to the streets!



**Pledge To March With Us**  
**VotingRightsMarch.org**  
**(202) 462-6000 x25**



# EMANCIPATION REPRESENTATION

## MONDAY, APRIL 9

- 7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Forum:** Celebrating Emancipation in the Struggle for Voting Rights  
**Location:** The Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, 1701 15th Street, NW
- The Role of the African-American Church in the Struggle for Emancipation
  - The Rev. John C. Cook and the Abolitionist movement in the District of Columbia
  - Developing an Ecumenical Agenda in the Struggle for the District of Columbia Vote

## TUESDAY, APRIL 10

- 6:30 p.m. Washingtonians in the Struggle for Emancipation** [in conjunction with 'Who is a Washingtonian Forum']  
**Location:** Provisions Library, 1611 Connecticut Avenue, NW, 2nd Floor  
**Organizer:** The Humanities Council of DC
- Washingtonians in the Civil Rights Movement
  - Washingtonians in the March on Washington
  - Washingtonians and Congressional Representation
- 7:00 p.m. Historical Events in the Struggle for Emancipation**  
**Location:** University of the District of Columbia, 4200 Connecticut Ave., NW, Building 44, Room A03.
- The Snow Riot of 1835 — Jefferson Morley — Reporter/Researcher
  - The Pearl Riot of 1848 — Josephine F. Pacheco - Professor Emeritus
  - Slavery and the Slave Trade in the Chesapeake Region — Dr. Roger Davidson
  - The District of Columbia's Black Civil War Regiment — C.R. Gibbs, Historian

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

- 12:00 noon Emancipation and Political Oppression**  
**Location:** The Recorder of Deeds Building, 515 D Street NW

**Organizer:** Larry Todd, Recorder of Deeds

- The Struggle for Emancipation and the Triumph over Slavery
- Emancipation, Jim Crow, and the Civil Rights Movement
- The DC Vote and the Struggle for Congressional Representation

**6:30 p.m.**

### Slavery and Emancipation in the District of Columbia

**Location:** The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G Street NW

**Organizer:** Martin Luther King Library

- Escape on the Pearl: The Heroic Bid for Freedom on the Underground Railroad
- The Saga of Mary and Emily Edmonson
- The Pearl Affair and Riot of 1848

**7:00 p.m.**

### Conducting Genealogical Research on 19th Century Records

**Location:** THEARC (The Arc)

1901 Mississippi Avenue, SE

**Organizer:** The Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society

- Conducting Genealogical Research on African Americans
  - Using Slave and Emancipation Era Records
  - Using Records in the National Archives
  - Using Records in the District of Columbia Archives

**7:00 p.m.**

### Emancipation Day Freedom Songs Concert

**Location:** Capital View Baptist Church, 5201 Ames Street, NE

- Organizer:** Dr. John Fowler, Pastor
- Howard University Choir
  - Berean Baptist Church
  - Dunbar High School Gospel Choir
  - Roosevelt High School Gospel Choir

**7:00 p.m.**

### Emancipation Day Book Signing Program

**Location:** Bethune Archives and Museum, 1318 Vermont Ave. NW

**Book:** *Legacy: Treasures of Black History* edited by Thomas C. Battle & Donna M. Wells

## THURSDAY, APRIL 12

**7:00 p.m.**

### A Historical Perspective of Slavery

**Location:** The National Archives, 700 Pennsylvania Ave NW

**Organizer:** The National Museum of African-American History & Culture

**Special guest:** Mr. Lerone Bennett

- The Abolitionist Movement in the District of Columbia
- The District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act of 1862
- Voting Rights a Quest for Congressional Representation

## SATURDAY, APRIL 14

**10:00 a.m.**

### Wreath Laying Ceremony

**Location:** Lincoln Park, E. Capitol St between 11th and 13th St., NE

**Organizer:** Friends of DC Emancipation Day, Loretta Carter Hanes

**10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.**

### Debut of a free cellphone walking tour of the African American history of Lafayette Square.

**Location:** Stephen Decatur House Museum, 1610 H Street, NW

- Self-guided tour narrated by former Secretary of Veterans' Affairs, Togo West
- Pick up a map and tour information at the museum

**2:00 p.m.**

### Emancipation Day Community Awards Reception

**Location:** Anderson Cottage at the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Rock Creek Church Rd & Upshur St, NW

### Honorees:

- Dr. John Hope Franklin, James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of History
- Mr. Lerone Bennett, Historian, Executive Editor Emeritus, Johnson Publishing Co.
- Ms. Donna Wells, Prints and Photographs Librarian
- Dr. Josephine F. Pacheco, Historian

## SUNDAY, APRIL 15

**2:00 p.m.**

### Celebrating Emancipation through Music, Words, & Images

**Location:** The Historical Society and the National Music Center 801 K Street NW

**Organizer:** The Historical Society & the National Music Center

**7:00 p.m.**

### An Interpretation of Emancipation through Poetry & Prose

**Location:** Busboys and Poets, 1390 V Street NW

- Slavery and the Abolitionist Movement in the District of Columbia
- The Institution of Slavery in the District of Columbia
- The District of Columbia Vote and the Struggle for Congressional Representation
- The District of Columbia Vote and the Call for Community Activism

## MONDAY, APRIL 16—DC EMANCIPATION DAY

**2:30 p.m.**

### Voting Rights March

**Location:** John A. Wilson Building, 14th Street & Pennsylvania Ave NW, with march down Pennsylvania Avenue from 13th to 3rd Street NW. Expected marchers include:

- Mayor Adrian M. Fenty
- Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton
- Members of the District of Columbia Council
- Congressman Tom Davis

**4:00 p.m.**

### Voting Rights Rally at the Capitol Reflecting Pool

**Location:** National Mall at 3rd Street NW

- Largest Voting Rights Rally in DC History